

09/986,748
NEC-5084-US
IKE.009

REMARKS

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's helpful comments that he provided during the personal interview conducted on November 20, 2006. Applicant notes that at the interview, the Applicant and Examiner discussed all of the pending claims and discussed the cited references (e.g., Blackham).

At the interview, the Examiner agreed that amending claims 10 and 21 to recite *"inputting said fixed point data to a Viterbi decoder to perform Viterbi decoding with the fixed point data"* would overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101. The Examiner also agreed that amending claim 1 (and similarly in claims 10 and 21) to recite *"wherein when an overflow occurs in said extracted bits, said bit extracting unit outputs a predetermined maximum value of said fixed point data"* would overcome the alleged informalities.

The Examiner agreed that *"a leading bit of said predetermined number of bits comprising a second bit from the most significant bit (MSB) of the shifted bits except the sign bit"* would overcome the rejections based on the cited references.

Applicant notes that the claims have been amended herein based on the Examiner's comments.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-4, 10-13, and 19-28, all of the claims presently pending in the application, are in condition for immediate allowance.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-4, 10-13 and 19-28, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

To the extent necessary for submitting this response, Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time under 35 C. F. R. 1.136.

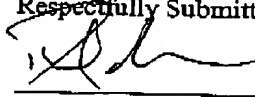
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Date: 11/24/06


Respectfully Submitted,


Phillip E. Miller, Esq.
Registration No. 46,060

McGinn IP Law Group, PLLC
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, VA 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Amendment was filed by facsimile with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Examiner Ngo, Chuong D., Group Art Unit # 2193 at fax number (571) 273-8300 this 24th day of November, 2006.


Phillip E. Miller
Reg. No. 46,060